Minutes of the TROY CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARINGS

Thursday, July 23, 2020, 5:30 p.m.

Due to the COVID-19 crisis, this public hearing was held remotely via videoconference.

The public hearing was called to order at 5:32 p.m. by Council President Mantello.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: The roll being called, the following answered to their names: Council Member Ashe-McPherson, Council Member Steele, Council Member Cummings, Council Member Zalewski, Council Member McDermott, Council President Mantello, Chair. Council Member Gulli was absent.

In attendance was Commissioner of Planning & Economic Development Steven Strichman.

Public Forum:

No comments were received.

Adjournment

The public hearing adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Thursday, July 23, 2020, 5:45 p.m.

Due to the COVID-19 crisis, this public hearing was held remotely via videoconference.

The public hearing was called to order at 5:45 p.m. by Council President Mantello.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: The roll being called, the following answered to their names: Council Member Ashe-McPherson, Council Member Steele, Council Member Cummings, Council Member Zalewski, Council Member McDermott, Council President Mantello, Chair. Council Member Gulli was absent.

In attendance was Commissioner of Planning & Economic Development Steven Strichman.

Public Forum:

A statement was received from Steve Muller and is appended to these minutes.

Adjournment

The public hearing adjourned at 5:53 p.m.

Thursday, July 23, 2020, 5:50 p.m.

Due to the COVID-19 crisis, this public hearing was held remotely via videoconference.

The public hearing was called to order at 5:53 p.m. by Council President Mantello.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: The roll being called, the following answered to their names: Council Member Ashe-McPherson, Council Member Steele, Council Member Cummings, Council Member Zalewski, Council Member McDermott, Council President Mantello, Chair. Council Member Gulli was absent.

In attendance was Commissioner of Planning & Economic Development Steven Strichman.

Public Forum:

No comments were received.

Adjournment

The public hearing adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Public Forum

Here are some comments for the City Council's Thursday discussion on whether to convert State St. from a one-way (eastbound) street to a two way street between First and Third Streets.

My name is Steve Muller and I have lived in The Conservatory apartments at the corner of State and Third for the past five years. Prior to that I lived for 12 years in Washington Park. I can see some merit in allowing westbound traffic on State St., especially on days when Second St. is closed at State, such as for Farmers Market and the Victorian Stroll. Traffic would then be able to proceed westbound, including to the State St. parking garage, provided that new signage is also installed.

However, converting State St. to two-way traffic would also entail the loss of street parking on at least one side of the street. I would point out that parking is allowed on the south side of State St. on the one block that is currently open to two-way traffic between River and First. I suggest that for the sake of consistency parking continue to be allowed on the south side of State St. between First and Third. Of course, this will create winners and losers. Hatchet Hardware and the tenants of The Conservatory will be winners. Hatchet will continue to be able to receive semi-truck deliveries on the south side of the street, and moving vans for tenants will be able to park on the side of the building. The Troy Savings Bank Music Hall will have to arrange for tour buses and equipment trucks to park on the south side of State between Second and Franklin St. Alley. The big losers would be the tenants of the Caldwell, who will no longer be able to park or stop in front of their building. Also, the Bank of America will lose State St. street parking, and ATM users might be tempted to park on the north side while they run to the ATM. There is already a problem with cars double-parking on Third to use the ATM, and these car often block buses from getting by. Enforcement of the new no parking zone will be critical, because if vehicles do park or stop on the north side of a newly two-way State St. this could cause traffic jams, as currently happens when vehicles park on the designated no parking west side of River St. between Third and the Arts Center.

Finally, from our apartment we observe that at least once a week a driver traveling south on Third will turn west on State and drive the wrong way on State. This risk would be eliminated if State becomes two way.